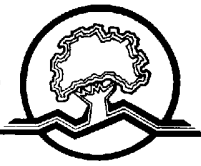


Attachment
SMMC Item 11
February 26, 2007

Materials prepared by: C. McLane, 2/20/07



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens

570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100

Los Angeles, California 90065

Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

February 20, 2007

Ms. Elizabeth Cheadle
Chairperson
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
5750 Ramirez Canyon
Malibu, California 90265

Grant Application - Propositions 50 & 84 Funds Acquisition of Chatsworth Peak properties

Dear Ms. Cheadle:

I am pleased to present the enclosed application for grant funding for acquisition of Chatsworth Peak properties. The MRCA requests a grant in the sum of \$250,000 from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), specifically Water Code Section 79570(c), and from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), contingent upon approval of the FY 07-08 State Budget.

The proposed grant would fund fee acquisition of four parcels totaling approximately five acres and a 1/3-acre conservation easement in the critical inter-mountain range habitat linkage between the Santa Susana Mountains and the Simi Hills at Chatsworth Peak. Please refer to the enclosed application for more information. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Paul Edelman, at 310-589-3230, extension 128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael D. Berger'.

Michael D. Berger
Chairperson

Attachments: Application

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION			
Project Name: Chatsworth Peak (Wallace) Acquisition		Amount of Request: \$ 250,000 Total Project Cost: \$ 250,000	
Applicant Name: Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority			
Applicant Address: 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90065		Project Address: N/A	
		County	Senate District
		Ventura	19-McClintock
			37-Strickland
Phone: 323-221-9944 Fax: 323-221-9934		Email: edelman@smmc.ca.gov	
Grantee's Authorized Representative:			
Cara McLane, Contracts Officer		323-221-9944, x117	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
Person with day-to-day responsibility for project:			
Paul Edelman, Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning		310-589-3230, x128	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
Brief Scope of Work (60 words maximum): Fee acquisition of approximately 4.95 acres, APN 649-0-070-050, 649-0-070-060, 648-0-200-020, and 648-0-183-050, and a 0.3-acre narrow conservation easement on APN 649-0-070-360 .			
Funding Source Applied for: Proposition 50, Proposition 84			
Narrative/Project Description: <p>Chatsworth Peak is part of the critical inter-mountain range habitat linkage between the Santa Susana Mountains and the Simi Hills. In regards to this habitat linkage, most attention has focused on the north-facing slope of the peak specifically on the connection between Santa Susana Pass and Box Canyon Road. A high quality habitat linkage also exists across the south-facing slope via Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park. The south-facing slope contains a high concentration of large sandstone outcrops and unique micro-habitats. However the only protected land between the State Historic Park and Box Canyon is an approximately 10-acre cluster of open space owned and managed by the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (RSRPD). Efforts are underway to develop many of the other lots in this corridor. One such threatened ownership is the Zorro's cabin parcels that the RSRPD was outbid on earlier this year. That ownership is at the edge of a broad, gently-sloping shelf of land between Lilac Lane and Studio Road. This shelf makes an ideal area for a trail between the State Historic Park and the North American Cut Off which is a frequently traveled dirt road between Box Canyon Road and Sage Ranch Park.</p> <p>The subject Wallace property is also situated at the south edge of this gently-sloped shelf. It is also adjacent to the easternmost of the two Zorro's cabin parcels. During the time period that RSRPD was pursuing the Zorro's cabin parcels, the owner approached staff with hopes of making a deal where the property could be permanently protected. The properties have been appraised and the</p>			

Continued on next page

parcels (APNs 649-0-070-050, 649-0-070-060, 648-0-200-020, and 648-0-183-050) with a total acreage of 4.95 acres and the sale of a narrow conservation easement on APN 649-0-070-360 (0.3 acres). One small parcel is not contiguous with the others but it has conservation value and appraised at a nominal cost.

The three primary parcels contain many large outcrops that rise several hundred feet up to the described gently-sloped plateau. The northernmost lot contains a large flat open area that is accessible via the same dirt road as the Zorro's cabin parcel. The rocks in this area contain a natural basin that fills to a depth exceeding five feet with a length exceeding fifteen feet. The clear water supports many unique plant and invertebrate species including fairy shrimp. The property contains most of the values supplied by the Zorro's cabin property, including unparalleled views of the San Fernando Valley and Chatsworth Reservoir, just not as many oak trees and a historic film set cabin.

The requested grant would fund the acquisition of the parcels as described above. It is expected that funding for the acquisition will be split between two sources: Proposition 50 and Proposition 84. The MRCA requests that the term of agreement begin February 26, 2007 and end no earlier than December 31, 2008.

Tasks / Milestones:

1 Land Acquisition

Budget:

\$ 250,000

Completion Date

December 31, 2008

Acquisition Projects: **APN(s):** 649-0-070-050, 649-0-070-060, 648-0-200-020, 648-0-183-050, 649-0-070-360

Acreage: Approximately 5.25 (4.95 fee + 0.3 easement)

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.

Cara Melnyk, Contracts Officer
Signature of Authorized Representative

2/20/07
Date

Interim Form SMM-001

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ♦ THE RESOURCES AGENCY